

Communication & Relationships Between LME & CFAC

How to Play in the Sandbox
(without throwing sand)

It is only when we all bring our unique pieces together that we can complete what we have started.



CEO Roles

- Knowledge – must understand Recovery
- Knowledge – must know how to listen
- Believe – that Recovery model works
- Believe – consumers and families are key to success.



CEO must assure that we Balance
the many factors for the benefit of
the Consumers and the Families.



CEO Role

- Expect that at times people will differ.
- Make sure the organization values CFAC.
- Promote that CFAC does not work for the CEO, LME, Board or State.
- Be Active, Involved and Supportive

LME Board Role

- To Listen.
- To Support.
- To Understand CFAC's Perspective.
- To Respect CFAC's Right to Advocate.
- To Include CFAC.

LME Staff Role

- To Provide Support... including
 1. Budget
 2. Training
 3. Computer
 4. Office
 5. Clerical assistance
 6. Email and internet

CFAC..... a member of LME CQI Team



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We Celebrate



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CFAC Early History

- No clear direction from the state
- No training to develop By-laws or Relational Agreements
- Felt like “Window Dressing” for the Reform
- Struggles with Role among CFAC members and Board of LME
- Yes we all threw some sand.....

CFAC Role

- Some wanted to be a last resort court for individuals.
- Some wanted to focus on process/systems.
- LME wanted control over CFAC.
- Some focused on negatives of State or Board.
- Settled into a learning, listening & low profile mode.

CFAC Role

- Began to focus on gaps in services.
- Met with Board Chairperson of LME.
- CEO provided CFAC a seat at Board meetings, added to the agenda of LME Board meetings.
- Legislative Changes... empowered CFAC

Self-Governing

CFAC Leads Process

- Held a Retreat.
- LME Board members and CEO attended.
- An Acting-County Manager helped focus CFAC on being positive and not catching LME Board off guard.
- CFAC Executive Committee and LME Board Executive Committee meet together quarterly.
- CFAC meets before LME Board so better prepared for Board meetings.

CFAC & LME

We can Share the Sandbox

- LME Board revised By-laws – changes reflected some of CFAC's concerns.
- We have learned from our experiences.
- Attitudes are important.
- We agree to listen to each other.
- Annual LME Board meeting included all CFAC members and all LME staff.

Special Projects – CFAC Leadership

- Helped establish the Mountain Council on Substance Abuse
- Provided kits for National Alcohol Screening Day and Depression Screening.
- Held Legislative Breakfast Events in several locations.
- Advocated and supported CIT project.
- Planning a Consumer Business Conference in May 2008

We Make A Difference



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